

DOWN TO BUSINESS.

The Chamber of Commerce is in Earnest.

MONEY FOR THE VALLEY ROAD

Harry Sherwood Makes a Practical Suggestion. The Zante Current Again.

The meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held at the new quarters of that body last night was literally and truly "the talk of the town."

What it meant was simply and emphatically that Fresno is to be in line with other valley towns on the principle of working as well as talking in favor of a competing railroad.

Among those present were Mr. Aiken, Pedlar, Rowell and W. T. Mainy; W. H. Thomas, Louis Einstein, Louis and Leopold Gundelinger, John O. Jones, A. C. Bues, John McMillin, O. N. Woodward, Harry Sherwood, Fulton G. Berry, Thomas E. Hughes, T. J. Hammond, Colonel H. A. Trevelyan, W. G. Uridge, A. L. Hobbs, John Reichman, W. C. Hodgkin and many others.

The first business before the chamber was a desire expressed by several members for a minute recognition of the hospitality extended to the organization during the recent visit of the Valley Road directors to Maltreoro.

On motion of A. R. Briggs a committee of three was appointed to draft a resolution of acknowledgment of Mr. Maltreoro's hospitality. Messrs. Briggs, Louis Gundelinger and John Reichman were named as the committee.

The next matter for consideration was the resolution of the Fourth of July. Chairman Goldstein made a patriotic speech and declared himself in favor of celebrating. After some little discussion the matter was referred to a committee of three to prepare a draft of a resolution to be presented to the chamber.

Then came the call for strict business. Louis Gundelinger asked the chairman to lay before the meeting the substance of the demands made by the directors of the Valley road on the citizens of Fresno.

Chairman Goldstein said he fully recognized that the road had come for all to talk and begin work. Director Watts had put the case very plainly. The directors wanted sufficient ground for a depot, shops, switches and all the facilities required for a great central point connecting readily with the interior. At least forty acres of land might be wanted for this purpose, and the right would have to be secured near the downtown portion of the city.

It was pointed out that the directors wanted a site for a depot, shops, switches and all the facilities required for a great central point connecting readily with the interior. At least forty acres of land might be wanted for this purpose, and the right would have to be secured near the downtown portion of the city.

Harry Sherwood submitted a proposition for the consideration of the meeting. The money needed was assumed to be in the neighborhood of \$50,000. He had procured from the assessors office a list of 300 names of large taxpayers and he was satisfied that 200 of them would contribute \$250 apiece. He suggested that a committee of five be appointed by this chamber to handle the matter. He believed also that each member of the Chamber of Commerce would be willing to contribute a hundred dollars.

Dr. Pedlar believed in getting the people interested and not confining this matter to a few. He thought a joint committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the One Hundred Thousand Club taking part, would be the proper thing.

W. G. Uridge recommended obtaining bids from property owners on depot sites.

Louis Gundelinger deprecated any discussion that would cause the main issue to be lost sight of. The meeting should not without taking some decisive step in the railroad matter. He thought the Chamber of Commerce should handle the matter or whether a public meeting should be called.

A. R. Briggs said there had been difficulty at the conference with the railroad directors in getting them to meet their respective requirements. Mr. Berry, the engineer, had said the directors were satisfied to leave the matter of entrance and exit to the people of Fresno, and also that the money needed was not sufficient to build a road, and it was otherwise convenient for traffic. He himself believed the people of this county are prepared to raise \$100,000 if necessary to carry out the project of a competing railroad.

For the rest he thought that the Chamber of Commerce, with its 100 members, is a sufficiently representative body for all purposes.

A. L. Hobbs said that the communications from the One Hundred Thousand Club which had somehow miscarried had been accounted for, and he knew its contents. He assured the chamber of the hearty co-operation of the One Hundred Thousand Club in any movement that might be made to build a road.

Chairman Goldstein said it was particularly desirable that whatever committees were appointed should be composed of men having no selfish interests to serve. He wanted to see the people of Fresno recognize how sorely this road is needed. If they do not make a road now, while the chance is here, the experience of the past two years will be repeated. It will be hard times over again. Fresno has got rusty and must shake off the rust.

Thomas E. Hughes spoke of his impressions of the future of the new road, which included a branch to Hollister and two roads south of Fresno.

Dr. Rowell was skeptical about more than one road being immediately developed, but thought a road to the coast would be a good thing in five years or so. He did not believe in four or five roads running out of the city within a short time. The Valley road would come first. One thing is in favor of the new road, the directors do not ask the people to give them property to be used for speculative purposes. For the rest, he thought the character of the committee named would have much to do with the success achieved in getting the road.

THE BICYCLE ORDINANCE.

It Revives the Clang of Bells and the Scream of Whistles.

The result of the revival of the ordinance requiring bicyclists to carry lights and bells, or horns, has been to bring into use many an old lamp and many a discarded bell and horn. The ordinance was supposed to be dead, but it proved to be only sleeping.

The law is inauspiciously, it requires the wheelsman to carry a lighted lamp on a horn or bell at night, and requires the bell or horn to be put to duty while crossing streets. But no bell, lamp or horn need be carried by day. Several riders yesterday, imagining that the ordinance was dead, rode down the streets without the street clanging bells, and without the horns blowing whistles. It was all unnecessary. But it stands in hand to be prepared when night comes.

The ordinance regulates the speed beyond which the wheelsman must not go. This will probably cause fewer wheels to go to the shops for repairs. Nearly all break-downs and collisions are caused by high speed. The ordinance is a high speed law. There is some question as to what will be classed as too great a speed. Some riders seldom make a rate more than seven or eight miles an hour. Others seldom ride at a rate less than twelve miles an hour. The ordinance considers a mile rate too fast; the other would consider it quite slow. A good rider can travel the streets at a twelve mile rate with less danger to other people than a poor rider at a six mile rate.

Local Entertainments and Personal Notes.

So far vineyards in this vicinity have not suffered from worms.

The Oleander school closes next Friday.

Miss Rosa Dorman returned from Watts valley last Saturday.

Miss Annie Harrison returns to Los Angeles next Thursday.

Herbert M. Estes left for San Leandro Sunday, where he will enter commercial school.

Miss Margaret Storer of Fresno is visiting here.

P. V. Chase, C. A. Tibbels, William Morton, J. Eismann and W. J. Wilcox returned to Kingsley last night.

Mr. Tibbels carries a piece of machinery in the shape of a spear that would intimidate an alligator, much less a carp.

The Ladies Aid Society cleared about \$5 of Mrs. Eismann's entertainment.

Last Saturday the Ladies Aid Society gave an excellent entertainment for the benefit of the Congregational church of Oleander.

The salient feature of the program was the music of the Philharmonic Society of Fowler, which rendered some difficult music to an applauding audience. A piano solo, a juvenile chorus, and vocal solos by Mrs. Clark of San Francisco gave a variety to the program.

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The Oleander Foot Club was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. H. Harris last evening. The club last night was a beautiful boom which was shattered.

But if you will pause to think of the matter you will realize that it is on no more solid basis than this that prices are founded in those strange periods of insanity known as real estate booms.

I wish to repel with just scorn and righteous indignation the base insinuation that a right bicycle ordinance has been adopted in this city because I ride a wheel and the people must be protected in some way. The story is the malicious fabrication of some insidious enemy of mine. Since I wear a placard the public is sufficiently protected. No, this is not the reason why the ordinance was enacted, and it is not the reason why the city trustees should be made. The city trustees ascertained that Frank Short is about to purchase a wheel, and I would much regret to say anything to hurt Mr. Short's feelings, and I would much regret to say anything to hurt Mr. Short's feelings, and I would much regret to say anything to hurt Mr. Short's feelings.

When Mr. Short has his head set, and the jury (in favor of his) will be the proper time for him and his jury.

For every body to know, if not prepared to die, I will be the first to die.

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THE MAN ABOUT TOWN.

A Real Estate Boom Which Didn't Boom Much.

WHEN MR. SHORT HIS CYCLE GETS

A Railway Engine, a Train of Cars and a Mule—Some Other Things.

A certain man came down from Mission to Fresno and fell among real estate men. It is curious how much ancient and modern events sometimes resemble each other—but this is by the way. The man rode about Fresno until finally he found a piece of land that he thought he would like to buy. But he didn't know to whom it belonged, and so he went to a number of real estate dealers and told them he wanted to purchase the land if the owner would sell. And each dealer said, "I will see what I can do for you," for it is their pleasant duty to be very accommodating in such matters.

Scene 2—Judge Critchton discovered the man in his office. He said: "What is the name of the man who told me you wanted to buy land?" "I am found, and I am found I am found," (later stranger).

"Is this Judge Critchton?" "It is used to." "I am found, and I am found I am found," (later stranger).

"I'll be pleased to." "I am found, and I am found I am found," (later stranger).

"Oh, I don't know." "I am found, and I am found I am found," (later stranger).

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READY FOR WORK.

THE HUNDRED THOUSAND CLUB'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Its Membership Increased From Eleven to Twenty-two—The Railroad Committee.

A called meeting of the Hundred Thousand Club was held last evening at the city hall, for the purpose of voting on a proposition to increase the membership of the executive committee, and for incidental business.

For nearly half an hour it became a question whether the meeting would come off. When Chairman A. V. Lacey finally rapped his gavel for order, it was nearly 9 o'clock, and it was found that there were only thirteen members present, fifteen being required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Under these circumstances William Glines moved that the matter be postponed for a week, and the motion was carried. Mr. Glines also moved that the report of the secretary and treasurer be also laid over.

Just as the meeting was about to adjourn, Stuart S. Wright came in. There still lacking one vote to carry in the election, Stuart S. Wright moved that the meeting be adjourned until the next evening, and the motion was carried.

The meeting was now in shape to transact business, and on motion the vote, postponing a decision on the proposition to increase the membership of the executive committee, was carried.

William Glines moved and E. F. Bernhard seconded that the executive committee be increased to twenty-two members. Mr. Glines also moved that the report of the secretary and treasurer be also laid over.

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WHERE DEER ABOUT.

A District Where Sheep are not Permitted to Range.

The fact may not be generally understood, but it is perhaps no less a fact that the reason for the growing scarcity of deer in the mountains east of the San Joaquin valley is not so much because hunters are plentiful as because sheep eat the feed and leave the deer to starve out. This view of the case is strengthened by a consideration of the facts.

Of late years the people of that vicinity have had a tacit understanding among themselves that there should be no hunting of deer in the mountains east of the San Joaquin valley. This view of the case is strengthened by a consideration of the facts.

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EMPLOYING LABORERS.

Superintendent Gray Speaks for the Sunset Telephone Company.

A correspondent in yesterday's Expressor complains that "the new telephone company" is importing laborers to lay the wires in this city, and is not employing men who live here.

In speaking of the matter last night Superintendent Gray of the Sunset Company said:

"There is probably a misunderstanding somewhere. There is no new telephone company at work in this city in any capacity where laborers are needed. No, and therefore could not be seen to work laying wires. But the Sunset Company is engaged in extensive work, putting wires under ground for a distance of more than 4000 feet. If anyone has the impression that the Sunset Company does not mean to employ Fresno laborers to do this work, it is a mistake. We have six men from a distance. One is the superintendent of construction, another is his timekeeper, and the other four are experienced men in underground work, to act as bosses for the forty Fresno laborers who will be employed in putting in the wires."

Professor McNeil's Bicycle.

The Stolen Wheel Recovered From a Repair Shop.

W. J. McNeil, teacher of sciences at the high school, has recovered his bicycle, which was stolen about a week ago. Mr. McNeil had left the wheel outside the building during school hours, using it to ride to and from school. The thief had taken it in broad daylight and the diligent search which followed was of no avail.